

*Stated Meeting, November 19.*

Present, twenty-one members.

JUDGE KANE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From C. C. Rafn, Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, dated Copenhagen, July 29, 1852, accompanying a programme of a proposed publication by that Society, on British and Irish Antiquities, from records contained in old northern manuscripts;—and also a printed sketch of “the Discovery of America by the Northmen:”—

From Mr. Isaac Lea, dated Paris, Oct. 27, 1852, on transmitting a communication from M. Michaux:—

From M. F. André Michaux, dated Vauréal pres Pontoise, 25th Oct. 1852, in relation to the cultivation of trees; also expressing his grateful feelings towards this Society and the people of the United States, referring to the kindness and hospitality shown to his father and to himself, many years since, during their travels in the United States. This letter is accompanied by a sealed paquet, to be preserved by the Society, unopened, until after the decease of Mr. Michaux:—

From the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Vienna, dated 20th December, 1851, returning thanks for Nos. 40 to 46 of the Proceedings of this Society, and expressing a wish to be supplied with the previously published numbers:—

From the Connecticut Historical Society, dated Hartford, Nov. 8, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of No. 47 of the Proceedings: and—

From Lieut. M. F. Maury, dated National Observatory, Nov. 12, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of notice of his election as a member of the Society.

On motion of Col. Biddle, it was resolved that a letter be written by the Secretary, acknowledging to Mr. Michaux the receipt of the sealed document sent by him to the Society, and informing him that it will be carefully preserved, in accordance with his wishes.

The following communication was read from Dr. Patterson, the President of the Society:—

*Philadelphia, 18th Nov. 1852.*

To the Members of the American Philosophical Society:

Gentlemen,—Having been for several years chosen by you as President of the American Philosophical Society, an honour of which I have always entertained a high appreciation, I feel that it is now prudent for me to decline being again a candidate.

Advancing years and declining health admonish me to seek quiet and repose; but I beg to assure you that, though retired from active duties as an officer of the Society, I shall ever feel a lively interest in its welfare, and a desire that its efforts for “the promotion of useful knowledge” may successfully continue.

R. M. PATTERSON.

And, on motion of Prof. Frazer, the Secretary was instructed to address a letter to Dr. Patterson, expressive of the high estimation in which the Society has always held him, and of their deep regret that he should find it necessary to decline being again a candidate.

On motion of Mr. Trego, it was resolved that the sealed paquet transmitted by Mr. Michaux, be deposited in the document box of the Society, which is placed for safe keeping in the vault of the Philadelphia Saving Fund Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

De la Différence du Pouvoir dispersif des deux Electricités. (Note de M. Zantedeschi, communiquée par M. Arago. Comptes Rendus de l'Acad. des Sciences. Tome XXXV.) 4to.—*From M. Zantedeschi.*

Notice Historique sur M. R. Fulton. Par M. André Michaux, Membre de la Société Nationale et Centrale d'Agriculture. Paris. 4to.—*From the Author.*

Explanations and Sailing Directions, to accompany the Wind and Current Charts, approved by Commodore Charles Morris, Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance and Hydrography, and published by authority of Hon. William A. Graham, Secretary of the Navy.

- By Lieut. M. F. Maury, U. S. N. Fourth Edition. Washington, 1852. 4to.—*From the Author.*
- A set of Charts, on 36 sheets, comprising Wind and Current Charts, Pilot Charts, Whale Charts, &c. By Lieut. M. F. Maury, U. S. N. Washington, 1849—1852.—*From the same.*
- Catalogue of the Officers, Teachers and Students of the University of Northern Pennsylvania, from Nov. 3, 1851, to Sept. 30, 1852: together with the Address of the Hon. George W. Woodward, delivered before the University, April 1, 1852. Honesdale. 8vo.—*From William Duane, Esq.*
- The African Repository. Vol. XXVIII. Nos. 10, 11. Oct. and Nov. 1852. Washington. 8vo.—*From the American Colonization Society.*
- The Medical News and Library. Vol. X. No. 119. Nov. 1852. Philada. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*
- The Plough, the Loom and the Anvil. Vol. V. No. 5. Nov. 1852. N. Y. and Philada. 8vo.—*From F. G. Skinner, Editor.*
- Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. XXIV. No. 5. Nov. 1852. Philada. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*
- Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History, Oct. 1852. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*
- Contributions to Conchology. By Prof. C. B. Adams. No. 11. Amherst. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Dr. Meigs announced the death of Dr. Drake, a member of the Society, who died at Cincinnati on the 5th inst., in the 67th year of his age; and, on motion of Dr. Duglison, Dr. Meigs was appointed to prepare an obituary notice of the deceased member.

Mr. Trego adverted to the remarks made by him at the last meeting, on certain mineral specimens found on the table land west of the Rio del Norte, and laid before the Society some fine specimens of copper ore, from the same region. These he had temporarily mislaid at the last meeting; but had since found them. They are chiefly specimens of native copper, and were given him by Dr. Hammond, of the U. S. Army, who found that smelting establishments had existed in the locality in which the specimens were obtained, but had been abandoned.

Dr. Duglison, Clerk of Board of Officers and Council, read the Minutes of the proceedings at the last meeting of the Board.

Pending and new nominations for membership were read.

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*Stated Meeting, December 3.*

Present, twenty-one members.

DR. FRANKLIN BACHE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. Thomas B. Wilson, a recently elected member, was presented, and took his seat.

A letter was read from the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, communicating their thanks for No. 47, of the Proceedings of this Society.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

Vol. VI. No. 5. Sept. and Oct. 1852. Philada. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*

An Expedition into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake of Utah; including a Description of its Geography, Natural History, and Minerals, and an Analysis of its Waters: with an Authentic Account of the Mormon Settlement. Also a Reconnaissance of a New Route through the Rocky Mountains; and two large and accurate Maps of that region. By Howard Stansbury, Captain Corps of Topographical Engineers, U. S. Army. Philadelphia, 1852. 8vo.—*From Major Hartman Bache.*

The Mormons, or Latter-Day Saints, in the Valley of the Great Salt Lake: A History of their rise and progress, peculiar doctrines, present condition and prospects;—derived from personal observation during a residence among them. By Lieut. J. W. Gunnison, of the Topographical Engineers. Philada. 1852. 8vo.—*From the same.*

The Astronomical Journal. No. 50. (Vol. III. No. 2.) Nov. 20, 1852. Cambridge, Mass. 4to.—*From Dr. B. A. Gould, jr., Editor.*